

Message Text

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15

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 6071

EXDIS

E.O.: 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR,PDEV, KS, JA

SUBJECT: KIM TAE-CHUNG CASE: ROK-JAPAN RELATIONS

REF: SEOUL 6055

1. POL COUNSELOR CONVEYED TO JAPANESE EMBASSY (KAWASHIMA) SEVERAL OF THE POINTS WHICH CAME UP IN AMBASSADOR'S SEPTEMBER 6 MEETING WITH PRIMIN KIM (REFTEL).

2. POLITICAL COUNSELOR TOLD KAWASHIMA THAT WE DO SEE AN ANTI-JAPANESE MOOD EMERGING IN ROKG LEADERSHIP CIRCLES. (AMBASSADOR USHIROKU HAD EARLIER DISCUSSED HIS OWN CONCERN OVER THIS WITH AMBASSADOR.) POL COUNSELOR COMMENTED THAT THIS ANTI-JAPANESE MOOD WAS PARTIALLY DEFENSIVE REACTION ON PART ROKG, BUT ACCORDING PRIMIN, ALSO SPECIFICALLY RELATED TO ANGER ON PART PRESIDENT PARK AND OTHER RANKING OFFICIALS OVER ALLEGED JAPANESE VIOLATION OF AGREEMENT NOT TO DIVULGE INFORMATION ON KIM CASE UNTIL CONSULTATIONS WERE COMPLETED (PARA 4 REFTTEL).

3. KAWASHIMA SAID THAT THERE, IN FACT, HAD BEEN AN AGREEMENT EARLY IN THE KIM CASE NOT TO DIVULGE TO PRESS DEVELOPMENTS IN THE CASE UNTIL THE OTHER SIDE HAD BEEN INFORMED AND CONSULTED. HE ACKNOWLEDGED IT WAS TRUE THAT UNDER HEAVY PRESSURE CONFIDENTIAL

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FROM JAPANESE POLICE AUTHORITIES GOJ HAD MADE PUBLIC FACT THAT IT WANTED TO QUESTION ROK EMBASSY OFFICER.

4. POL COUNSELOR ALSO NOTED THAT PRIMIN KIM HAD INDICATED ROKG AWAITING REACTION FROM JAPANESE TO POSSIBILITY KIM TAE-CHUNG MIGHT BE PERMITTED TO GO AT SOME POINT TO JAPAN FOR BRIEF PERIOD TO ASSIST IN INVESTIGATION (PARA 2. REFTEL). KAWASHIMA FRANKLY PUZZLED BY THIS. STATED THAT THE PRIMIN'S "PROPOSAL" HAD BEEN DISCUSSED WITH JAPANESE ONLY AS A VAGUE POSSIBILITY AT SOME FUTURE TIME WHEN THE ROK INVESTIGATION WOULD HAVE BEEN COMPLETED. SINCE KOREANS HAD NOT, IN FACT, GIVEN THE GOJ A DATE WHEN THEIR OWN INVESTIGATION WOULD BE COMPLETED, THERE HAS NOT SO FAR BEEN ANY SERIOUS DISCUSSION OF THE "CONDITIONS".
HABIB

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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